1   26.   A method for charging for distributed network analysis, comprising:

2   collecting network traffic information utilizing a plurality of information

3   collectors;

4   consolidating the network traffic information utilizing at least one information

5   collector manager coupled to the information collectors;

6   reporting on the network traffic information to a user utilizing at least one

7   interface; and

8   determining a fee associated with the distributed network analysis based on a

9   number of the information collectors.

1   27.   The method as recited in claim 26, wherein the fee is reoccurring.

1   28.   A computer program product for charging for distributed network analysis,

2   comprising:

3   computer code for collecting network traffic information utilizing a plurality of

4   information collectors;

5   computer code for consolidating the network traffic information utilizing at least

6   one information collector manager coupled to the information collectors;

7   computer code for reporting on the network traffic information to a user utilizing

8   at least one interface; and

9   computer code for determining a fee associated with the distributed network

10   analysis based on a number of the information collectors.

1   29.   The computer program product as recited in claim 28, wherein the fee is

2   reoccurring.